



December 9, 2018

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20554

Re: Docket 18-336

Implementation of the National Suicide Hotline Improvement Act of 2018

Dear Commissioners:

I write on behalf of the Idaho Suicide Prevention Hotline. We provide crisis intervention, emotional support and resource referrals to all Idahoans. We are a member of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network. I strongly support the adoption of a 3 digit number to simply, broadly and effectively promote access to crisis mental health and suicide prevention services. I oppose the adoption of the existing 211 system for this purpose. The 211 number has already been branded as a resource referral access number. While some crisis centers also serve as 211 call response centers, most lack the specialized training and years of experience that dedicated crisis centers possess in the provision of the needed services. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important matter.

Sincerely

John R. Reusser, LCSW

Director, Idaho Suicide Prevention Hotline

208-258-6991\

jreusser@jannus.org